

**DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER  
CHILD PROTECTION**

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>DEANERY</u>	<u>ARCHDEACONY</u>
<u>CATHEDRAL</u>	ARDWICK	MANCHESTER
<u>INFORMANT</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>DATE</u>
[REDACTED]	---	1.Sept 03
<u>Tel</u>		
<u>OTHERS</u> Mrs Wheedon's sister Alison		

1 [REDACTED] rang 90 Deansgate and was referred to [REDACTED]. She reported that her brother (no name given) had told his Mother and two sisters that as a Cathedral Choirboy between the ages of 11, 12, 13, he had been sexually abused by the then Dean of Manchester, Robert Waddington. As I was on holiday [REDACTED] informed [REDACTED] who subsequently telephoned [REDACTED]. She told him that her brother had been experiencing marital problems and was receiving counselling. He had disclosed the abuse to his counsellor who told him to report the matter to the police, on his refusal to do so the counsellor discontinued the sessions. He continued counselling with another person who gave him the same advice (but presumably continued with the sessions)

He eventually told his wife and then his Mother & sisters.

Robert Waddington had been something of a family friend, indeed he had officiated at the weddings of [REDACTED] and five years ago he had been a guest at the wedding of their brother (presumably to show that he was over the abuse).

2 [REDACTED] ADVISED [REDACTED] THAT LITTLE COULD BE DONE UNLESS AND UNTIL THE MATTER WAS OFFICIALLY REPORTED BY THE VICTIM OF THE ABUSE. HE WOULD RECORD THE REPORT AND AWAIT EVENTS.

3 Later [REDACTED] told roughly the same story to [REDACTED] at Bishopscourt.

4 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] acquainted me with these facts on 1.9.03. The Very Rev'd Robert Waddington is retired and now lives in York. Nothing is known of his present activities but Bishop Nigel will speak to The Archbishop of York about him, when he gets the chance.

2 September 03.

[REDACTED] rang; The Bishop had spoken to the Archbishop about R. W. There had been a previous referral about sexual impropriety some time ago from Australia, where R. W. had been the Headmaster at a School. An ex-pupil had made a complaint to the Bishop of Queensland who had relayed it to the Archbishop. Robert Waddington was seen by the Archbishop and, although denying any wrong doing, apologised for any 'hurt' there may have been. The Dean was now a very sick man after treatment for cancer. Bishop Nigel wondered whether a call from me, or [REDACTED] as he had spoken to [REDACTED], telling her that the man was ill might be helpful. I had to speak to The Bishop on another matter so I took the opportunity to discuss these issues. In particular I advised that it was not a good idea to speak to the family about Robert Waddingtons state of health. To do so might sound like special pleading and would probably be seen as "looking after their own". The Bishop immediately saw the point and agreed that it was not 'on'. He told me that the Archbishop of York had said that he would be pleased to speak to me about the matter. I asked if the Archbishop had told his C.P. Rep. and was told that he had not.

I remarked that that put me in a somewhat awkward position with my colleague and the Bishop advised me to mention it if I spoke to the Archbishop. NB: It does appear that the AB wants to tell me about his dealings.

**3 September 03**

Telephoned to speak to the Archbishop of York who phoned me back within half an hour. He had been contacted by the Bishop of North Queensland Australia in Jan 1999 who told him of a visit from a young man who had been at St Barnabas School Ravenshoe in the Diocese of N Queensland between 1964 & 1968. The B of Q said that the man did not want to do anything about it but wished to know that there was no likelihood of anything similar happening. The Archbishop asked Robert Waddington in and whilst R.W was shocked and somewhat apologetic he said there might be some misinterpretation he was deeply sorry for any embarrassment he may have caused. The man is now reclusive and obviously unwell. The Archbishop replied in those terms and said that there was no possibility of any continuing offence. The Bishop of North Queensland replied in May 1999 saying that he had conveyed the contents of the AB letter to the complainant who was generally satisfied. I asked the ArchB if he knew that R.W. was still alive and was told that he was fairly certain that he was. I checked and was told that [REDACTED] the Archbishops Rep. had not been told but that he would be.

**8<sup>th</sup> September 03**

Rang [REDACTED] York Rep for C.P. He was not aware of the situation and thanked me for the info. He remarked that this was not an unusual practice by the Archbish. He was not sure when he was next due to meet him but would wait to be told.